# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:328
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
INSECTICIDES IN MINERAL WATER
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government are aware that the mineral water packed in bottles contain insecticides which can cause diseases like cancer;

(b) if so, whether the Government have analysed the samples of bottled water;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether bottled water is supplied in large quantities to the railway passengers endangering their health; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

## Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(c): As per standards prescribed for Natural Mineral Water under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, Pesticides Residue should be `below detectable limits` when tested in accordance with the specific method as prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standards under their inspection and testing scheme.

The Pesticide Residues were not detected while analysing the samples of Mineral Water and Packaged Drinking Water as per this method.

However, in an independent study by Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi, samples of Packaged Drinking Water were stated to contain Pesticide Residues because of different in testing methodology adopted by CSE.

(d)&(e): The limit detected by BIS method of analysis is upto 0.01 mg/litre.However, keeping in view the method of processing of Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water by which Pesticide can be removed upto any extentfrom the water, it is now proposed to revise the method of analysis and to prescribe the maximum residue limits of Pesticides in water as below:

`(a) Pesticide Residues considered individually - 0.0001 mg/litre
(b) Total Pesticide Residue - 0.0005 mg/litre`

(The analysis shall be conducted by using internationally established test methods meeting the residue limits specified herein above).

Additionally, it is also being prescribed that the manufacturers of Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water shall be produce a No objection Certificate from Central Government/State Governemnt Ground Water Authority for obtaining licence from BIS and PFA Authorities.